

economy because both issues have important ramifications for our trade relationship.

As a member of Congress who serves on the House Judiciary and International Relations Committees and Chairs the Energy and Resources subcommittee of the Government Reform Committee, I am engaged in the formulation of policy on intellectual property, U.S. foreign policy, and energy issues. Therefore, I see the U.S.-Russia trade relationship from a variety of perspectives. I also see the important relationship between market and democracy trends and Russia's WTO accession process.

I urge my colleagues to pay attention to these larger trends, some which are disturbing, as you consider Russia's progress on WTO negotiations with the United States and the eventual consideration of the Jackson-Vanik legislation and granting of PNTR to Russia. Russia must be held accountable under a WTO agreement that protects free and fair trade.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2006

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I am an exchange of letters between DON YOUNG and RICHARD POMBO for the RECORD.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,

Washington, DC, September 28, 2006.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I have reviewed the text of H.R. 5681, the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2006, and believe that the Committee on Resources has a jurisdictional interest in provisions in this important legislation dealing with fisheries. Specifically, we have identified a provision dealing with the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands crab fishery in the Northern Region of the management plan.

Recognizing that the House of Representatives has a dwindling number of legislative days left before the 109th Congress adjourns, I will forego seeking a sequential referral of H.R. 5681. Waiving the Committee on Resources' right to a referral in this case does not waive the Committee's jurisdiction over any provision in H.R. 5681 or similar provisions in other bills. In addition, I ask that you support my request to have the Committee on Resources represented on the conference on this bill, if a conference is necessary. Finally, I ask that you include this letter in the Congressional Record during debate on H.R. 5681 when it is considered by the House of Representatives.

I appreciate your leadership on this bill and I look forward to working with you on H.R. 586.

Sincerely,

RICHARD W. POMBO,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, September 27, 2006.

Hon. RICHARD W. POMBO,
Chairman, Committee on Resources, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN POMBO: Thank you for your letter expressing the jurisdictional in-

terest of the Committee on Resources in H.R. 5681, the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2006. The Committee on Resources has a recognized claim to jurisdiction over the conversion to catcher processor provision that is included in this bill as proposed to be considered under suspension. I appreciate your agreement to allow this measure to proceed under suspension and to waive further consideration.

I understand that your agreement to allow this bill to proceed under suspension is conditioned upon our mutual understanding that nothing in this legislation, or your decision to waive further consideration, reduces or otherwise affects the jurisdiction of the Committee on Resources over provisions of the bill that are in your jurisdiction. I also understand that this waiver does not affect the right of the Committee on Resources to have its members named as conferees in the event of a conference with the Senate on this bill.

I greatly appreciate your cooperation in allowing the conversion to catcher processor shares provision to move on H.R. 5681. This issue impacts only fisheries in Alaska.

Sincerely,

DON YOUNG,
Chairman.

TRIBUTE TO HUMBOLDT VETERANS "WALL OF HONOR"

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute today to one town's effort to remember all of its veterans from the Civil War to the current War on Terror. Remembering the brave men and women of our military is something we should all strive to do in some fashion.

Humboldt and Humboldt Township is a small community in north-central Illinois. Thirty-five miles south of Champagne and nine miles north of Mattoon, Humboldt and Humboldt Township revolve around agriculture and farming. The 1,300 people of Humboldt Township, including the 500 that live in the town of Humboldt, define the essence of hard-working Americans.

The citizens of Humboldt Township are embarking on a remarkable memorial to honor the men and women of our Armed Forces. Next month the "Wall of Honor" will be on display at the Humboldt Township building. This tribute will honor veterans from the Humboldt area dating back to the Civil War and continuing to the present day. There will be hundreds of pictures mounted on the walls and articles of interest will be displayed on tables.

While Humboldt may not be large, their contribution to the U.S. military has been great. Humboldt residents have served during times of peace and times of war. When needed, they have heeded the call of duty and traveled far from home to defend the United States. They have triumphed at Vicksburg during the Civil War, flown bombing missions over the Pacific in World War II, rescued fellow soldiers as the U.S. engaged in the Korean War, courageously served in Vietnam, liberated a country held hostage during the Gulf War, and fought in the War on Terror and Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, during this time when the military is so important to the United States, it is

gratifying to see local communities make efforts to remember those that have dedicated their lives to protecting this nation. I congratulate the citizens of Humboldt and wish them the best.

HONORING FAIRFAX CITY'S VFW POST 8469

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of VFW Post 8469, and the veterans whose dedication and service to this country are a remarkable testament to the past and present character of America's servicemen.

On October 7, 2006, Fairfax City's VFW Post 8469 will celebrate its 60th anniversary. This Veterans of Foreign Wars Post includes members who have served their country in several foreign conflicts, including World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm and most recently Iraqi Freedom. It is the history of this fine group of patriots that is celebrated. And history tells a tale.

Sixty years ago Fairfax was a bucolic little southern county. There were only two high schools. The Fairfax County Police Department had only six officers. Most of the young men who went off to war in the preceding 5 years knew each other, as did many of their families. They generally left for war at different times and typically served in different units, spread all over the globe.

These soldiers saved the world and then they returned to an America that had radically transformed in their absence; specifically, to a county poised on the verge of a period of unprecedented growth. The only thing that had changed more than their world was the soldiers themselves. The returning soldiers, in the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes, "[had] shared the incommunicable experience of war . . ." This theme, and the reality of their circumstance, helped to underscore the necessity for a place and a venue where the veterans could find comradeship, work for the common good of the community, their fellow veterans, the widows and orphans, and to remember their fallen.

Mr. Speaker, today VFW 8469 is blessed with the presence of four of the 108 charter members of our Post from October 1946. All members of VFW 8469 stand on the shoulders of these and other giants.

The Charter Members named VFW 8469 the "Blue and Gray Post", in honor of the area's famous 29th Infantry Division and in recognition of the healing power of a post-Civil War poem titled, *The Blue and the Gray*, by Francis Miles Finch. The first verse of which reads:

"By the flow of the inland river,
Whence the fleets of iron have fled, [the
Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River]
Where the blades of the grave-grass quiver,
Asleep are the ranks of the dead: [Arlington
Cemetery]
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment-day;
Under the one, the Blue,
Under the other, the Gray."

All Americans owe an unfathomable debt to our American soldiers who have taken up

arms in defense of our lives and our freedom. As I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 60th anniversary of VFW Post 8469, I believe it appropriate to conclude with the remarks of Floyd Houston, a member of VFW Post 8469.

"These young veterans need us as much as we need them. We must never forget our past—these giants who built what we have today and we must always keep faith with our values as we press into the future—support to veterans, their survivors, our community, and honoring our dead. May God continue to bless this Post, this county, this country, and may we never be at a loss for heroes such as these."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN
RINALDI

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend John Rinaldi, who is retiring after a long and distinguished career with the City of Henderson, Nevada. John is an outstanding example of a dedicated and supportive community-minded person that I have the privilege of representing in the Third Congressional District.

John joined the City of Henderson in October 1989 as Property Manager and City Surveyor and was promoted in July 2004 to Manager of the Office of Property Management and Redevelopment in the City Manager's Office. He formerly directed the City of Henderson's real estate interests; administered the sale, purchase, and lease of property for public use and city-initiated enterprise projects; and oversaw the Redevelopment Agency's efforts in three separate districts: Downtown, Tuscany, and Cornerstone.

John graduated from California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo in 1976 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture—Landscape Design. John is a registered Water Rights Surveyor in Nevada and a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in Nevada, California, and Oregon. He is a published author of several articles on land surveying and an instructor, presenting papers at national conferences, classes and seminars.

In addition to his academic success and accomplishments, John is also a member of several organizations such as the Urban Land Institute, International Right-of-Way Association, American Public Works Association, American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, and the Nevada Association of Land Surveyors. John is also a graduate of the 1998 Clark County Leadership Forum.

John has allowed these experiences to strengthen his philosophies and ideologies of community, integrity, and professionalism to strengthen his moral code and leadership abilities. John is well regarded for possessing a strong moral character which has guided him successfully through his years of public service to our community. His commitment and passion for building a better Nevada reflects the type of person that he is.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor my good friend John Rinaldi. He has worked tirelessly for the last 17 years on behalf of the residents

of the City of Henderson, and I applaud his efforts and dedication. I wish him the best in his retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAXWELL
BAIN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Maxwell Bain of Littleton, Colorado. Mr. Bain has been accepted to the People to People World Leadership Forum here in our nation's Capitol. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the People to People program founded by President Eisenhower in 1956.

Mr. Bain has displayed academic excellence, community involvement and leadership potential. All students chosen for the program have been identified and nominated by educators.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in paying tribute to Maxwell Bain, and wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KATY
ELEMENTARY

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, Katy Elementary School, of the Katy Independent School District, is among the 26 Texas schools that have recently received the Department of Education's prestigious Blue Ribbon Schools award.

The No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes outstanding public and private schools that are either academically superior or have demonstrated dramatic and consistent gains in student achievement. The Department of Education selects Blue Ribbon Schools based on nominations submitted by the states. My colleagues may be interested to know that every school nominated by Texas received a Blue Ribbon Schools award.

Schools can be nominated for a Blue Ribbon Schools Award if at least forty percent of their disadvantaged students show dramatic improvement over three years on state tests in reading or English language arts and mathematics. Schools whose student bodies rank in the top ten percent on state tests in reading or English language arts and mathematics may also be nominated for a Blue Ribbon Schools Award.

In addition to these two criteria, Blue Ribbon Schools must meet Adequate Yearly Progress requirements in reading or English language arts and mathematics, must not have been identified as a "Persistently Dangerous" school within the last two years, and must comply with other Department of Education requirements.

Katy Elementary's designation as Blue Ribbon Schools is a tribute to the schools' teachers, administrators, and other employees' dedication to providing students with a quality

education. It also is a reflection of the students and parents' commitment to the pursuit of educational excellence. I am therefore pleased to offer my congratulations to Katy Elementary School for being one of the 26 Texas schools designated as Blue Ribbon Schools by the Department of Education.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PERSONALIZED
HEALTH INFORMATION
ACT

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud today to introduce the Personalized Health Information Act, which I hope will be a step in helping us redesign America's health care system.

Our health care system today delivers some of the best care in the world, but can hardly be described as the best health care system. We spend more than 50% more on health care per capita than other industrialized nations, and yet our health outcomes are much worse. We all know the burden that health care costs are putting on America's families and businesses.

Many of us have extolled the potential of information technology to begin transforming health care. I.T. can unlock data that is trapped in paper, catch human errors, help providers deliver the latest evidence-based medicine, improve public health, reduce duplication and administrative costs, and provide new research capabilities. I.T. is by no means a silver bullet, but it is a tool that can be used to reorient health care, so that—finally—the system delivers the right care to the right people at the right time, as efficiently as possible.

I've introduced other bills on this subject, and House and Senate negotiators are currently trying to work out a compromise health I.T. bill, but this bill today is a new approach. Those other bills, mine and others', have generally focused on the challenges of putting technology in providers' hands and building the related infrastructure. That goal is critical, and we pursue it vigorously. But it also is long-term.

I believe that there are other, parallel steps we can take that can begin harnessing the power of technology to improve health outcomes and efficiency right now. And I think we can do so in a way that will begin changing the dynamics around health I.T. in a way that makes the longer-term goals more attainable.

Web-based, consumer-controlled patient health records, PHRs, have been recognized by many to have great potential. After all, a PHR that contains a person's basic demographics, insurance information, and a current medications list would be extremely valuable, even if it contained nothing else. That PHR would mean every provider would have important basic information at the point of care. It would cut down on medication errors, and streamline administration.

The problem is that while many organizations offer PHRs, few people actually use them. The Personalized Health Information Act is designed to jump-start the use of PHRs.

This bill seeks to use the doctor-patient relationship to make the PHRs of value to the patients. Right now, most individuals see PHRs